



MLK Day of Service, p.16



Black History Artists, p.6

Charlestowne North Lender Files For Foreclosure and Receivership

by Erica Johns

Residents of the troubled Charlestowne North apartment building saw their first concrete steps toward improving their living conditions last week, when they learned from Greenbelt City Manager Josué Salmerón and Mayor Emmett Jordan that lender Freddie Mac filed for foreclosure and emergency receivership against the building owner on January 31 and February 2, 2024. The next step is for Prince George's County Circuit Court to act on the filings. The court may schedule a hearing before ruling, or may rule only on the evidence in the filings. Salmerón said he is optimistic there may be a receiver in place within one month.

Implication for Tenants

Salmerón told residents on Saturday, February 3 that the



Charlestowne North tenants discussed receivership and what it means for them with Greenbelt City Manager Josué Salmerón and Mayor Emmett Jordan, in Charlestowne North's community room on February 3, 2024.

receivership filing asks the court to appoint a receiver, which is a custodian responsible to care for the property and resolve the many code violations. He said receivers are responsible to the court, not the lender or owner. Receivers are often property management companies experienced in managing rental properties, and are typically authorized to collect

can confidently pay rent to a court-appointed receiver.

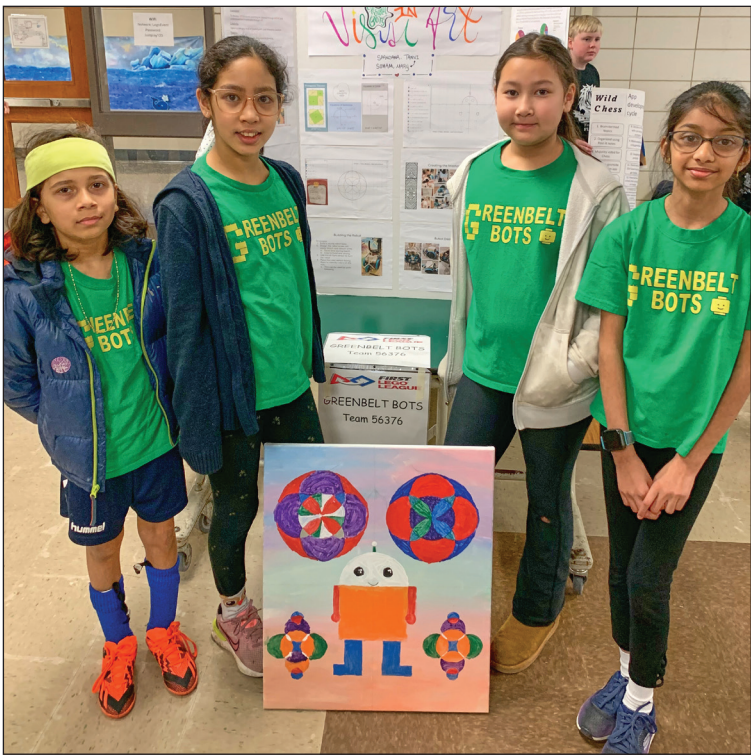
Salmerón said Freddie Mac filed for foreclosure and receivership because the owner is not compliant with the terms of the loan, explaining that commercial loans require paying the mortgage, maintaining the property to

See **TENANTS**, page 10

rent. When a tenant asked Salmerón how to know when to pay rent again, he said the city will tell residents when the court appoints a receiver, the receiver's name and when the city issues them a rental license. He said this is to assure tenants they have legitimate information and

Greenbelt Lego Robotics Team Wins FLL Innovation Prize

by Lesley Kash



The Greenbelt Bots Team, from left: Soham Chaudhuri, Spandana Noojipady, Mary Winternitz and Tanvi Saha

Greenbelt Bots, the youngest team competing, won first prize in the Innovation category in the Maryland First Lego League (FLL) qualifier event held in Joppa, Md., on Saturday, Janu-

ary 27. The young team thereby qualified for the Maryland First Lego League Championship, an invitation-only competition

See **ROBOTICS**, page 13

Recycling Centers Drowning In Rampant Illegal Dumping

by Diane Oberg



PHOTO COURTESY KEVIN CARPENTER-DRISCOLL

The city's recycling center at Buddy Attick Park

The city's three recycling centers are being inundated with large volumes of illegal dumping ranging from nonresidential volumes of oil, hazardous materials (including hydrochloric acid), furniture, construction debris and more. This is costing the city a lot of money in both staff time and disposal costs. Council has scheduled a March 13 worksession to begin discussing these matters.

Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll told council at its January 22 regular meeting that these costs in-

clude an estimated \$36,000 in staff time, \$10,000 to \$20,000 in hazardous waste disposal fees, \$3,000 in environmental recovery fees and \$15,000 to \$30,000 in tub grinder services. (Municipalities cannot use the free hazardous waste disposal facility operated by the county.) Carpenter-Driscoll presented the options developed by Public Works staff to address these problems. All options include installing security cameras to discourage dumping. There were no actions requested at this

See **DUMPING**, page 15

Council Receives an Update For Buddy Attick Park Plan

by Maurice Crawford

The Greenbelt City Council held a worksession on January 31 on the Master Plan for Buddy Attick Park. This is the third public meeting on the plan with about a dozen community members attending in person as well as members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. The goal of the Master Plan is to provide a vision for the future use of Buddy Attick Park that will guide improvements, protect natural resources and improve management practices. The update was presented by Scott Scarfone and Anthony Dye of Mahan Rykiel Associates, the company developing the plan. Currently the plan focuses on improvements at the main entrance, the peninsula area

and the South Cove plus changes along the shoreline of the lake.

Main Entrance

Suggested improvements to the main entrance include moving the playground and swing set closer to the basketball court and bathrooms, which would make a hub for these activities; rearranging the pathways, mainly by creating a circle path that would enclose most of the hill as it slopes away from the basketball court to the lake and having a small stage centered on the lawn closer to the lake and behind that

a waterfront promenade and a fishing pier. There is currently a lot of grass in this area and some of it could be converted to a pollinator meadow that would be mowed once a year. Finally, the plan includes added shelters and tables to provide more opportunities for picnicking.

South Cove

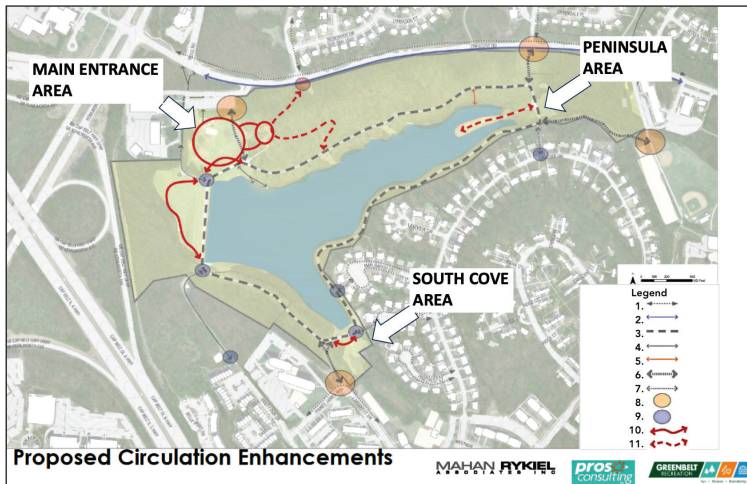
Conceptual improvements to the South Cove include adding a stepped terrace with more seating along the shoreline as well

See **BUDDY ATTICK**, page 13

What Goes On

Monday, February 12
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, February 14
No City Council Meeting

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.



MAP COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

1) Sidewalk, 2) Bike lane, 3) Main path, 4) Minor path, 5) Informal path, 6) Major entry route, 7) Minor entry route, 8) Major entrance, 9) Minor entrance, 10) Proposed new path, 11) Informal path formalized

Letters to the Editor

A Personal View Of McCarthyism

The recent series of articles on the McCarthy era, describing the attacks and persecution of some Greenbelt residents from 1949 to 1954, brings back my memories of the period. It was especially painful to read that five Jewish Greenbelt residents lost their jobs at that time. No other Greenbelt residents lost their jobs, even though we were a minority in the city. My parents were active in the Jewish Community of Prince George’s County, as our religious worship community was known at that time; my father was a one-time president of our organization.

We were terribly frightened of losing our jobs and our professional lives at the time, since the government was our sole employer. Prior to the second world war, most professions were closed to Jews. The prewar period was characterized by active antisemitism, with Henry Ford, Father Coughlin and many others having widespread influence. Even FDR, on the Harvard University Board, wanted to cut the quota of Jewish students admitted. In 1954, my application for admission to Harvard was rejected without comment. I was recently surprised by reading Oppenheimer that the chairman of the Berkeley physics department in the 1930s, Professor Raymond Birge complained to Oppenheimer that he was trying to hire too many Jewish physicists (Berkeley was where I did my graduate work). Kind of ironic, since most of the leading lights who designed the first nuclear weapons at Los Alamos were Jewish.

However, World War II necessitated a vast expansion of technological and scientific development. Therefore, the federal government hired a great many technical persons, some of whom wound up in Greenbelt. In the 1940s, and subsequently, the Jewish community of Greenbelt was

very active; Abraham Chasanow was one of many.

It appears the attackers had two targets: the cooperative spirit that animated Greenbelt citizens and Jewish people. So, the attackers could damage two targets simultaneously. The cooperative effort meant “socialism,” close kin to Communism. People had to review and defend their past actions. For example, anyone who had helped the Spanish government fight its defense against the fascists was suspect. It was easy to be paranoid since a person could be targeted by an anonymous telephone call to the FBI.

Thank goodness the period ended with McCarthy condemned by the Senate in 1954.

Shalom Fisher

Thanks for the Help

This note extends my gratitude to Mayor Emmett Jordan, Gilberto Cabrera (assistant director of Community Development & Planning Code Enforcement), County Councilmember Ingrid Watson and City Manager Josué Salmerón. These officials are invested in helping return our building to good working order and a safe environment. I’m very appreciative of all their efforts, as I’m sure other residents here are also. Further, I feel very fortunate to live in a city where citizens count and are supported in their efforts by city government. Thank you, Greenbelt!

Hannah Gould
Charlestowne North
Apartments resident


Plan Now for New Municipal Building

The City of Greenbelt is facing a set of decisions that will impact our collective future. Building or renovating spaces that house the work of the city employees to serve our residents, and for the residents to connect

See **LETTERS**, page 12

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

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See page 7 to get yours!





Greenbelt Cinema
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www.greenbeltcinema.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
FEBRUARY 9th - 15th


The Zone of Interest (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (106 mins)
German with English subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 4:30 PM, 7:00 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:30 PM, 5:15 PM
Mon. 5:15 PM
Tues. 7:15 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:15 PM
Mon. 2:45 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM

American Fiction (R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (117 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:00 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC)
Wed. 7:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM
Sat. 8:00 PM
Sun. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Mon. 5:30 PM
Tues. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM

Fight Club (R) (CC) (DVS) (1999) (139 mins)
Cult Classic
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 8:00 PM

PETE REPERT

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*JUST BE SURE IT’S GRAMATICALLY CORRECT



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).
Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.
All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

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- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center’s east door near the municipal building.

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

The Zone of Interest

The commandant of Auschwitz, Rudolf Höss, and his wife Hedwig strive to build a dream life for their family in a house and garden next to the camp. Said critic Tom Shone of the UK Sunday Times, “But if ‘never again’ really is the aim, Schindler’s List tells us only half the story. The Zone of Interest teaches us an equally valuable lesson: how not to look the other way.”

American Fiction

Cord Jefferson’s hilarious directorial debut confronts our culture’s obsession with reducing people to outrageous stereotypes. Jeffrey Wright stars as Monk, a frustrated novelist who is fed up with the establishment profiting from “Black” entertainment that relies on tired and offensive tropes. To prove his point, Monk uses a pen name to write an outlandish “Black” book of his own, a book that propels him to the heart of hypocrisy and the madness he claims to disdain. Wright has received a 2024 Oscar nomination for Best Actor for the role. “Wright, so often a strong supporting player ... is magnetic in the lead role: commanding, flawed, vulnerable, relatable. American Fiction is his movie,” said critic Adam Graham of the Detroit News.

Fight Club

A depressed man (Edward Norton) suffering from insomnia meets a strange soap salesman named Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt) and soon finds himself living in a squalid house after his perfect apartment is destroyed. The two bored men form an underground club with strict rules and fight other men who are fed up with their mundane lives. Their perfect partnership frays when Marla (Helena Bonham Carter), a fellow support group crasher, attracts Tyler’s attention.

Community Events

See Macbeth This Weekend At Greenbelt Arts Center

“In a near-future Scotland beset by rebellion, treason, malice domestic, foreign levy, and troublesome prophecies, who is fit to govern?” William Shakespeare’s Macbeth is directed by Liana Olear and presented by the Rude Mechanicals in residence at the Greenbelt Arts Center until February 10. Tickets are on sale at greenbeltartscenter.org.

At the Library

Regular hours for the Greenbelt Library are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays; noon to 8 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays; and 1 to 5 p.m., Sundays. Face masks are recommended for all customers over the age of 2 at Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) buildings.

Storytimes

Friday, February 9, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/9685484.
Monday, February 12, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/9685432.
Wednesday, February 14, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/9685581.

Winter Reading Challenge

The Washington Wizards and PGCMLS have teamed up to get Prince Georgians of all ages reading this winter with the Wizards Winter Reading Challenge. The free event runs until March 31. To help promote youth literacy, the challenge provides participants the ability to connect with their library while encouraging them to build a positive reading culture. The challenge can be joined online through Beanstack, a software platform and mobile app that allows readers to easily record their reading minutes, track their progress and stay motivated to complete the challenge. For more information, visit pgcmls.info/wizards.

Greenbelt Chess Club February Meeting Dates

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesdays, February 13, 20 and 27 from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. at the Youth Center. Note the change of the day: Tuesdays instead of Mondays. All ages and skill levels are welcome. For more information, call Effie at 443-415-1053.



Bilingual Story Time At Springhill Lake Friday

On Friday, February 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) with the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System will present engaging, lively stories and activities for young children and their caregivers to help build early literacy skills. This monthly program is an introduction to reading aloud to children as a way to instill the love of literature. After the readings, the children can stay and play with balls in the gym. There will be free children’s books and free healthy, nutritious snacks. Come, and spread the word to friends and families.

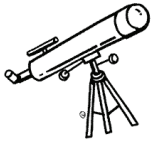
Libros, Bolas, Burbujas ... Diversion!

El viernes 9 de febrero a las 10:30 a.m. en el Centro Recreativo de Springhill Lake, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) con el Sistema de Bibliotecas Conmemorativas del Condado de Prince George's presentarán interesantes historias y actividades divertidas para niños pequeños y sus cuidadores, para ayudar a desarrollar las habilidades de alfabetización temprana. Este programa mensual es una introducción a la lectura en voz alta a los niños como forma de inculcar el amor por la literatura. Después de las lecturas, los niños pueden quedarse y jugar con pelotas en el gimnasio. Habrá libros infantiles gratis y aperitivos saludables y nutritivos. Como dijo un padre al irse, “Fue muy bueno!” Unete a nosotros, y corra la voz a amigos y familiares.

Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday, February 10 at the City Observatory located at 8101 Northway. Attendees can expect to see Jupiter and deep-sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae and star clusters currently high in the sky, viewed through the observatory telescope and astronomical camera. All are welcome. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own telescopes to set up on the hilltop.

Observing will begin at 6:30 p.m. and continue for two hours. Attendees are asked to park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.



Explore Black History Saturday, February 24

Join the Greenbelt Reparations Commission from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, February 24 for an overview of Black history in upper Prince George’s County in the 19th and early 20th centuries and in Greenbelt from 1935 on. The program will be held in the Greenbelt Library Auditorium located on the ground floor.

Speakers at the free program will include Artura Jackson, historian for the Black History Program of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and Megan Searing Young, director of the Greenbelt Museum. Members of the Greenbelt Reparations Commission will provide a brief update on their work. Registration is not required. Email Mark Wilson at markwilsonimpact@gmail.com with any questions.



Golden Age Club Upcoming Meetings

The Greenbelt Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the Community Center. However, if public schools are closed (or open late) due to weather issues, the meeting is canceled for the day. The club is now collecting dues for 2024, \$15 for the year. For paid members, a part of the dues goes toward a discount for the annual luncheon in April. Paying dues by check is preferred; make the check payable to Greenbelt Golden Age Club.

February 14: Black History Month presentation by Marsha Cole, Civil War reenactor

February 21: Birthday celebrations. Bring lunch and a dessert or finger food to share.

February 28: Bingo

Library Celebrates Black History Month

On Thursday, February 15 at 4:30 p.m., the Greenbelt Library will offer The Blues: Lyrics of a Life Well-Lived, presented by the Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation. Jael “Ya Ya” Patterson and Miles Spicer will lead a discussion and musical presentation exploring songwriting and the stories and social issues behind blues songs.

Poetry In the Garden Meets on Sunday

The Poetry in the Garden meeting will take place on Sunday, February 11 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Schrom Hills Park clubhouse. This is a diverse group, open to everyone. Read a favorite poem or enjoy listening and discussing relevant topics. For more information about this group, contact Effie at 443-415-1053.

Nursery School Has Preschool Open House

Greenbelt Nursery School will hold its annual Open House on Saturday, February 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is the start of registration for the school year beginning September 2024.

Families seeking pre-school programs are invited to attend the Open House, meet the director, teachers and parents, view the classrooms and get information about classes.

Greenbelt Nursery School is a not-for-profit parent cooperative in its 80th year of operation. The school is certified by the Maryland State Department of Education. The school offers classes for children ages 2, 3 and 4. Full-day educational programs are available.

The school is located at 15 Crescent Road in the Community Center. Parking is available in the lot behind the Greenbelt Library. For more information, visit the school’s website at greenbeltnurseryschool.org or call the school at 301-474-5570.

Help Feed Those in Need

Greenbelt PORCH collects donations of nonperishables and hygiene products and brings them to the St. Hugh’s Food Pantry. Donations must be placed by front doors in containers marked RUAK or PORCH visible from the street. The pantry cannot accept food that has expired.

February schedule

Sunday, February 11 – by 11 a.m. for 1 to 8 Courts Ridge and Crescent Roads

Sunday, February 11 – by 4 p.m. for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors)

Saturday, February 17 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road

Sunday, February 18 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village

Sunday, February 25 – by 4 p.m. for 9 and 12 Courts Ridge Road, 11 and 13 Courts Ridge Road and Boxwood Village; by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

If not part of a regular pickup route, email Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on Sunday, February 18 at spreadruak@gmail.com. He will come to your porch and pick up your donations.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are always welcome; especially needed are coordinators in Greenbelt East. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection with Greenbelt PORCH, email Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.



Buried Treasure Is Coming Up in March

Rehearsals for the 2024 Greenbelt Youth Musical are underway. Tickets are now on sale in the main office of the Community Center for performances on March 2, 3 and 9.

This Week at the New Deal Café

SUPPORT Greenbelt's only venue with BOTH dinner AND a show!

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WINTER HOURS: Mon/Wed/Th 8am-9pm; Tues 8am-9:30pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – 10pm; Sunday 9am – 9pm, UNLESS NOTED.

TH 2/08	FRI 2/09	SAT 2/10	SUN 2/11	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Charlie Owen & Pocket Change 7-9pm Legendary blues vocalist	Jill Fulton Band 7-10pm Nashville recording artist covers and originals	COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE w/ KATY GAUGHAN, 3:30-5pm Moxie Blues Band NOTE: 8-11pm The house will rock!	DEAF BRUNCH, 10:30-12noon RIC GORDON MEMORIAL, 12-2pm The Chromatics 6-8pm High energy vocal band	
MON 2/12	TUES 2/13	WED 2/14	TH 2/15	SPECIALS!
Member Appreciation Night 4-9pm JOIN NDC & ENJOY!	NDC Open Mic w/ Tom Gleason 7-9:30pm Sign-up begin at 6:15pm	Valentine's Day with Marianna Previti 7-9pm A D.C. treasure back to the NDC!	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Scotch and Soda 7-9pm Latin, Jazz and swing!	HAPPY HOUR 4-7pm \$1 OFF BEER AND WINE WINE WEDNESDAY \$1 OFF PER GLASS \$5 OFF A BOTTLE

Join NDC! Go to www.newdealcafe.com, click on “ABOUT”, then “BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW.”

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

THE NDC NEEDS YOUR VOLUNTEER TIME ON COMMITTEES. Contact: jbelltower@yahoo.com. We promise: It won't hurt!

Greenbelt Access Television

Feb. 10, Sat - Feb. 16, Fri
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe • Your Community Access Station

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)

Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai (2008)
This documentary tells the story of Kenyan activist, visionary, and Nobel Peace Prize Winner Wangari Maathai, who through the simple act of planting trees, kickstarted a nationwide environmentalist movement.

New This Month

What's New at Greenbelt Cinema? | February 2024
This month, Caitlin announces the I Love Greenbelt Cinema campaign, and gives us the scoop on what we can expect to see at Greenbelt Cinema for the month of February!

All this and more on the GATe channel this week! Check greenbeltaccessstv.org for the full broadcast schedule, and visit Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube for new video productions.

Obituaries

Paul Beavers



Paul Beavers

Paul Ashton Beavers died at home on February 4, 2024. Paul was born to Paula Windsor and Gilbert Beavers. They moved to Greenbelt when he was a child, and he has resided here ever since. Paul is survived by his two children, Amanda Beavers and Alexis Beavers and the family dog, Junior.

Paul spent most of his life as a painter and loved the physical labor of a construction career. He stayed in this career until he was diagnosed with an incredibly rare disease that named him the 40th person to ever be diagnosed. After that, he changed his primary focus to fighting this disease. Paul had an incredibly strong will and fought hard until the end. The doctor said three years ago he only had weeks to live, yet he survived for much longer. They said he most likely wouldn't walk again and yet he was walking himself up the steps in the weeks before his death. Paul never gave up and gave himself a few more precious years to spend with his family. He enjoyed watching football (go Giants!), spending time at the American Legion Post 136 and being with his friends and family.

There will be a small intimate ceremony for close friends and family at Gates of Heaven cemetery at 9 a.m. on Friday, February 16. There will be a celebration of life open to all who knew Paul, at the Greenbelt American Legion, 6900 Greenbelt Road, starting at 6 p.m.



Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



Lisa Jellison



Lisa Danielle Jellison

Lisa Danielle Jellison of Greenbelt died on December 25, 2023, in Washington, D.C., at the home of her mother, Helen Todd. Born on February 5, 1956, in Boulder, Colo., to Helen and Frederick P. Jellison, she was the eldest of three children. The family lived in Silver Spring for six years and settled in Washington, D.C.

Lisa graduated from the Edmund Burke College Preparatory High School in 1974. She began her undergraduate studies at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, with a double major in German and music. After her sophomore year she spent the summer enrolled in an intensive German language program at the Goethe Institute in Düsseldorf. She won a scholarship to complete her junior and senior years at Universität Tübingen, where all her classes were taught in German. Lisa's love of languages led her to continue her studies at Georgetown University School of Languages and Linguistics, where she completed coursework for her master's degree.

As much as Lisa loved learning, she also had an avid interest in teaching, especially children. Impressed by the Montessori method of teaching, she enrolled in the Elementary I and II Montessori Training program at the American Montessori Society

Barrie School in Silver Spring. Upon graduating, she became a lower and primary elementary teacher at the Children's Manor Montessori School in Ellicott City, where she taught from 1997 to 2005. She continued her teaching career as an upper elementary teacher of science and mathematics at Robert Goddard Montessori School in Seabrook, from 2006 to 2019. Lisa moved to Greenbelt in 2007. Her fifth graders participated yearly in countywide STEM fair competitions and were often in the finals of the Science Bowl contests.

Lisa was married to Kenneth Gallagher, and gave birth to their son Gavin in 1994. The marriage ended in divorce.

A very outgoing person, Lisa loved to be with other people and to learn about them. She had an astute and inquiring mind and remembered details about people, places and events to an amazing degree. She loved music – classical, folk, jazz and, especially, the Beatles. She also played the piano beautifully. In recent years, Lisa was a leading founder of a Pub Quiz team, the Illiterates. The quiz games began in 2015 and continue to be played monthly at the New Deal Café.

Lisa is survived by son Gavin Gallagher of Greenbelt and stepson Kenneth Gallagher, Jr. of Winchester, Va.; mother Helen Todd of Washington, D.C.; and sister Audrey Jellison and brother Mark Jellison, both of Minneapolis, Minn.

See OBITUARIES, page 12

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Greenbelt Community Church, at 1 Hillside Road, will have a pancake supper on Tuesday, February 13 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring a friend or neighbor for pancakes, sausages and baked apples. All are welcome.

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM

Greenbelt Community Church

One Hillside Road

We are an
Open and Affirming
Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Join Us Sunday
10:15 AM
for Worship
and Church School

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US
135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.



Condolences to the family and friends of Lee Shields, a Greenbelt Pioneer, who died on December 2. He was the son of Greenbelt Pioneers William and Winona Shields.

Condolences also to the family and friends of long-time Greenbelter Paul Beavers. He will be remembered for his determination, his love for his family and his passionate support of the Giants.

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Lisa Jellison. She was known for her love of languages and interest in the Montessori method of teaching.

Congratulations to Kim Kash on being named "The Face of Prince George's County Real Estate" by the Washingtonian Magazine.

Congratulations to Stan Zirkin on receiving his third Outstanding Achievement Award from the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights for his volunteer work. Stan, a retiree, is a regular volunteer at a WLC employment law clinic, advising and assisting low-income workers facing employment-related issues. In

making this award WLC noted his "dedication to our workers" and the "tremendous results for our clients and the communities we serve" based on his work at the clinic. During his working life Stan was named as the best labor and employment lawyer in the federal government by the American Bar Association.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT MASS

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
City Council Room
25 Crescent Rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCGI985+owner@groups.io

"If thine eyes be turned towards justice, choose thou for thy neighbor that which thou choosest for thyself."
– Bahá'u'lláh



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Celebrate hope with us.



The Bible Says...

I can do all things
through Christ who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13



Sunday Worship Services

10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
(66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue
that respects tradition and becomes your extended family
in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



February 11, 2024 at 3:00 pm

The Boundaries of Love
(Mission Discernment Part 5)

Rev. Ann Kadlecsek with Liturgist Andy McIntire

"Boundaries are the distance at which I can love you and me simultaneously," says Prentis Hemphill. What might this mean for us, in our lives and in this church?

Streaming to our Facebook page, on Zoom and in person at 3:00 at:
University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

By dedicating your time and expertise, you will help shape the future of Greenbelt and create a community that values the voices of all its residents. Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

GREENBELT SAVE OUR SENIORS GRANT PROGRAM Are you homebound and need help with personal care?

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program, in partnership with Pickett Fences Senior Services, has been awarded a grant to provide temporary home health support, bathroom safety assessment, and equipment to residents 60+ or 50+ with a disability, who reside within incorporated Greenbelt. During this time staff will work to identify and link residents with long-term support programs.

- Benefits:
- RN Assessment
 - Bathroom Safety Assessment and Equipment
 - Home Health Visits

Limited spots are available!

Please email Trinity Cephas, GAIL Student Intern, for more information at tcephas@greenbeltmd.gov or call the Bilingual Health Caseworker, Brendy Garcia, at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

BRING YOUR OWN BAG ORDINANCE

Effective January 1, 2024, the City of Greenbelt's Bring Your Own Bag bill aims to reduce single-use plastic bag waste and litter in our local waterways and tributary system.

The Bring Your Own Bag bill will prohibit a retail establishment from providing a plastic carryout bag to shoppers and can charge at least 10 cents for each paper bag provided to a customer at the point of sale.

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/BYOBag.



GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Petitions and Requests
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- American Heart Association Month Proclamation
- * Minutes of Council Meetings
- Statement of Record - Closed Session, January 8, 2024
- Statement of Record - Closed Session, January 17, 2024
- Statement of Record - Closed Session, January 24, 2024
- Statement of Record - Closed Session, January 29, 2024
- Administrative Reports
- * Committee Reports
- Arts Advisory Board Report #24-1 - (Public Art Funds)
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Report - Open Forum of October 13, 2023
- Board of Elections Report #2024-01 (Report on November 2023 Election)

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- Contract for Broadband Feasibility Study
- Maryland Sustainable Communities Program Renewal Application
- Approval of Legislative Support
- County/Maryland Municipal League Legislation
- Electric Vehicle Plan
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- * Meetings
- * Stakeholders
- Acceptance of the FY2023 City Annual Audit
- Fiber Installation Project Change Order
- * Re/Appointment to Advisory Board

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY 12 - 16

Monday, February 12 at 7:30 pm, **REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, February 12, **CLOSED SESSION (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR MEETING)**

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(3) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, February 12, 2024, in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building immediately following the Regular Council Meeting: 1) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

The purpose of this meeting will be to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

*** The public may attend the Special Meeting prior to the closed session, and observe the vote of Council to move into closed session on Monday, February 12, 2024.**

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

CURRENT CARES PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge this fall: Emergency Diaper Program, Family and Unpaid Caregiver Resource Fair, Alzheimer's Awareness Month Webinar Series, Coffee & Conversations, two Free Produce Distribution events, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention in Older Adults webinar, Staying Strong webinar, and more.

For descriptions and information, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/CARESprograms.

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Greenbelt Recreation and the Black History & Culture Committee invite you to celebrate Black History Month in Greenbelt. For more information on events in February, please visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation.



Greenbelt Black History & Culture Committee
blackhistoryandculturegb@gmail.com



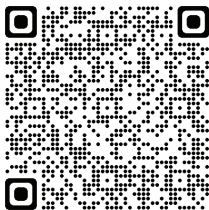
GREENBELT WAYFINDING SURVEY

The Neighborhood Design Center (NDC) is preparing a Greenbelt Strategic Wayfinding Plan for the City of Greenbelt funded by the Prince George's County Planning Department's Planning Assistance to Municipalities and Communities (PAMC) Program, and we are looking for input from the community. Community members are encouraged to take this brief survey, and to identify wayfinding signage gaps or needs in the City of Greenbelt on this interactive map.

Wayfinding can encompass various elements, including signage, maps, landmarks, and other cues that help individuals understand their location, the direction they need to go, and how to reach their intended destination. The Greenbelt Strategic Wayfinding Plan will facilitate pedestrian, automobile, bicycle, or transit travel to key sites by providing clear directions along safe and convenient routes.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or interactive map, please email Anusree.Nair@ppd.mncppc.org.

Thank you for your participation!



FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

UPCOMING PRODUCE DISTRIBUTIONS FEBRUARY 15, MARCH 21, & APRIL 18 TWO LOCATIONS

Community Center Ground Floor East: 1 pm, while supplies last. Open to all Greenbelt residents. **Must have a registration card** via Brendy Garcia at (240) 424-0302 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center: 3 - 4:15 pm, registration required. For Greenbelt West residents only. Register via email bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

Volunteers are needed every third Thursday of the month at the Spring Hill Lake Recreation Center & the Greenbelt Community Center. Volunteers will assist with setting up tables, sorting and organizing fresh fruits and vegetables, and distributing them to families in need.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center Volunteers - For information, contact Katherine Farzin (240) 524-2019. To register, please use the link: <https://forms.gle/AqNxCARjwioCntWf9>.

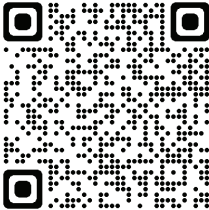
Greenbelt Community Center Volunteers - For more information, contact Flora Li (301) 412-2480.

COMPOSTING PILOT PROGRAM

For 18 months, your food scraps can be collected for free to reduce food waste and return valuable compost to Greenbelt.

The Compost Crew will pick up your food scraps weekly and deliver them to their Compost Outpost at Trinity Church on Good Luck Road. Quality compost will be returned to Greenbelt for use as a soil amendment to improve Greenbelt gardens and public space lands. Composting will reduce food waste going to the landfill and lower greenhouse gas emissions coming from the landfill. Compost Crew, the City of Greenbelt, and Trinity Assembly of God worked together to obtain the funding for the pilot through a grant from the USDA.

- Open to all Greenbelt residents
- Join with close-by neighbors to help fill a 7 gallon tote for weekly pickup
- Purchase a collection tote for a one-time cost of \$20
- Residents who are seniors, have fixed or low income, or have a disability are encouraged to participate



Register with Compost Crew at <https://compostcrew.com/greenbelt/> or by using the QR code.

Questions? Email: lrables@greenbeltmd.gov.



VALENTINE'S DAY MAGIC FEATURING STEVE KISH wednesday, February 14, 2 pm, Community Center, Room 201

Join us for a magical Valentine's day featuring Steve Kish The Magician! Don't miss this unique opportunity to celebrate love, laughter and connections across generations.

Steve Kish has a highly energetic performing style that is guaranteed to please all present! He performs a wonderful show full of amazing magic, audience participation, and fun! This is a MAGIC SHOW that will captivate and enthrall any audience.

This is a 60 and better event, but all ages are welcomed to attend! Light refreshments will be served. FREE! Email pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov or call Priya at (240) 542-2056 for more information.

HELP CREATE PUBLIC ART!

HELP CREATE PUBLIC ART! - FEBRUARY 10, FEBRUARY 17, & MARCH 2
Free workshops: 2/10, 2/17 and 3/2. Ages 14 to adult. Details and registration (required) at <https://bit.ly/3TSNycR>.

QUARTERLY CITY CONNECTER

The City Connector has been a publication of the City of Greenbelt since 2008. City Departments are solicited for each issue in order to provide a well-rounded newsletter. Each newsletter includes information about City services, events, and other governmental services.

Check out the latest edition of the Greenbelt City Connector today! #StayConnected

Visit <https://ow.ly/h76W50QvXhW>.



Black History Month

Black Art Exhibitions Open At Café, Community Center

by Lois Rosado

On Sunday, February 4, the opening art reception at the New Deal Café ushered in the first of many Black History Month programs being presented in Greenbelt. Mayor Emmett Jordan welcomed the audience and thanked the Black History and Culture Committee for their efforts over the years to produce quality and informative events in recognition of Black History Month.

Special guest Joyce Bailey spoke about the Black Fashion Museum founded by her mother, Lois K. Alexander-Lane, in 1979. Alexander-Lane wanted to highlight the fashion talents, skills and influences of African American fashion designers on American culture. She traveled all over the country to collect representative samples and created a special museum to showcase that creativity. The collection was eventually donated to the Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., and can still be seen there. Bailey's presentation was related to the fashion exhibition on display in the Community Center.

The New Deal Café show, part of a citywide exhibition, was curated by Shaymar Higgs. He paraphrased James Baldwin, who wrote that the role of the artist "is to illuminate that darkness, blaze roads through that vast forest, so that we will not, in all our doing, lose sight of its purpose, which is after all, to make the world a more human dwelling place." Higgs noted that the efforts of the artists on display were connected to their belief that the arts are vital to human advancement and dignity. Each piece on display tells a story.

The New Deal Café was brimming with artists, youth and Greenbelt residents who were excited to see the art show. Several artists spoke about their journey, how they became artistically engaged and the medium they used. They also appreciated the opportunity to share their works with a welcoming community.



Artists gather at the New Deal Café. From left, top row: Shanai Mushala, Jess The Messenger and Whiskey Girl; bottom row from left: B/ue, Delores McGhee-Jones, Flipp, Shaymar Higgs, Yaa Nkiru.



Quilts and clothing design exhibits in the Community Center art gallery

The artist Whiskey Girl performed a rousing and provocative poem; she will perform other poems at the Community Center on Sunday, February 18.

At the Community Center there is an exquisite exhibition of fashion by Venus Stanton and quilts by the Uhuru Quilters, curated by Nicole DeWald. That show also generated a lot of ex-

citement and community support. Both exhibits will be on view until early March.

Sponsors for the Art Opening Reception were the New Deal Café, the Greenbelt Recreation Department, the Greenbelt Consumer Co-op, The SPACE and the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee.

Black History Month

Quilting at Artful Afternoon



On Sunday, February 4, participants of all ages created no-sew quilt blocks with Artist-in-Residence Karen Arrington, shown at center, during the February Artful Afternoon. Pictured top left: Kim Walsh and son, Tae Cahalan, age 7; right: Johanna Moore and her daughter, Libby Moore, age 8 (front left)



An exhibit of fashion by Venus Stanton and quilts by the Uhuru quilters, curated by Nicole DeWald, is on display at the Community Center gallery throughout February.

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Note the updated start time. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, on Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

Crisis Hotline's Number is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is 988. Calls and text messages are confidential and free.

macbeth

- Photos by Constantia Bioux

A Rude Mechanicals Production at the Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD

Thursday, February 8th at 8pm – Pay What You Will
Friday & Saturday, February 9 & 10 at 8pm

www.rudemechanicals.com or www.greenbeltartscenter.org

A Review

Macbeth at Arts Center Mixes Shakespeare with Technology

by Carol Griffith

Even if you read Macbeth in school and didn't enjoy it, or just want to see it again performed in an innovative and powerful way, you should see the version of Macbeth now playing at Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC). It's a professionally done, excellent show in the capable hands of the Rude Mechanicals, the theater troupe currently in residence at GAC.

Definitely a play for our times, this flawless production is an innovative take on Shakespeare's tragedy about ambition and power. It mixes 21st century elements into the play's centuries-old setting: characters vape and consult their phones. The supernatural characters (think of the three witches) and places are seen on a large screen onstage that the in-person actors interact with. Originally conceived as an experiment in allowing immunocompromised actors to join the cast, it's very effective.

Jaki Demarest, whose performances at GAC are always top notch, as Macbeth, and Stephanie Davis as Macduff bring a startling physical presence to their roles and add a high level of drama.

It's Shakespeare at its best.

Macbeth will play at GAC, located at 124 Centerway beneath the Co-op Supermarket, on Thursday, February 8 (a Pay What You Will at the Door performance); Friday, February 9; and Saturday, February 10. All shows are at 8 p.m. See greenbeltartscenter.org or call 301-441-8770 for ticket information.



- Photos by Constantia Rioux



Lady Macbeth, left (Aparna Sri) and Macbeth (Jaki Demarest) plot to gain power in Macbeth.



Macduff, left (Stephanie Davis) and Malcolm (Jaelyn Evans) plan a rebellion against Macbeth, now playing at Greenbelt Arts Center.

The SPACE: Free Art For All 2024 Programs

Join in commemorating five incredible years and a host of new community partners at The SPACE: Free Art For All. The organization is thrilled to kick off 2024 with an exciting lineup of fresh programs designed to inspire and engage.

Wednesdays: Beginners Music Classes in Ukelele and Keyboards, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: Capoeira (Brazilian Martial Arts), 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Fridays: Drum Circles with Rainbow Joe, 7 to 9 p.m.

Saturdays: Yoga with Rene Hood, 10 to 11:30 a.m.; Expressive Art Workshops, 2 to 4 p.m.

All classes are not only enriching but also free and open to the public. The program extends a warm welcome for donations to support its community initiatives.

The SPACE is located upstairs in the former Big Lots space at Beltway Plaza, 6000 Greenbelt Road. Details on upcoming events can be seen on Instagram or Facebook @TheSPACEFreeArtForAll. For questions call 240-244-6115.



URINETOWN
— THE MUSICAL —
MUSIC AND LYRICS: MARK HOLLMANN
BOOK AND LYRICS: GREG KOTIS
February 9 - March 2, 2024
The Bowie Playhouse
2NDSTARPRODUCTIONS.ORG



DREAMGIRLS
PLAYING MAY 31-JUNE 29 2024
THE BOWIE PLAYHOUSE
AUDITIONS
FEBRUARY 12 & 13 2024
ALL RACES, AGES, GENDERS NEEDED!
LEARN MORE AT
2NDSTARPRODUCTIONS.ORG/AUDITIONS



Valentine Ad Submission Form

Drop at the Co-op grocery office or drop/mail to Greenbelt News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Make checks payable to Greenbelt News Review.

Text (Please Print Legibly) _____

Count of Words. _____ Amount Included _____

(up to 20 words, \$6; 21-30 words, \$9; 31 to 40 words \$12.. **\$3 per 10 extra words (or part)** Need Help? GNRValentines@gmail.com or call 301-474-4131 Mon & Tues, 2 to 4.

No change given. Overpayments become donations.
(See love note examples in this issue)

City Books 2024 Fireworks, Delays Broadband Contract

by Diane Oberg

At its January 22 regular meeting the Greenbelt City Council requested more information regarding a contract that staff presented for a municipal-hosted broadband service, approved a contract for the 2024 July 4 fireworks show and heard a presentation on the recent independent audit of the city's finances.

Broadband

Last year the city issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a feasibility study of the city building a broadband fiber network to provide internet service to residents. Four proposals were submitted with costs ranging from \$27,000 to \$445,000. City Manager Josué Salmerón and Information Technology Director Dale Worley were seeking approval of a contract with Mission Critical Partners at a cost not to exceed \$114,597.

Worley said the study would give the city a roadmap for moving forward if it chooses to.

Councilmember Kristen Weaver wanted to see more detail on what the city would get for what is a "fair amount of" money. Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmember Danielle McKinney also wanted more detail on deliverables and scope of work.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts declared himself skeptical of the city going into the broadband business. How many more city employees would be needed, he asked. Worley agreed that this would require the city to add staff and that the study would address that.

Council took the off-ramp offered by Salmerón and tabled the matter until the next meeting when staff will provide a more detailed scope of work. The study, if approved, would be funded from American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Fireworks

On a 5 to 1 vote with Roberts opposed, council approved a con-

tract for \$20,000 with Innovative Pyrotechnic Concepts, LLC of Hughesville, Md., for the 2024 fireworks show at Buddy Attick Park. Assistant Director of Public Works Brian Kim said the price was \$3,000 more than last year's show but mostly because the show will be larger.

Michael Hartman objected to the contract saying that toxic materials released pollute the air and water and the noise is harmful to animals, fish and residents. He suggested council consider instead alternatives such as a light or drone show.

Kim said that the city needs to commit to the vendor now as the company is nearly fully booked. Council approved the contract but agreed to look into alternatives for the future. Hartman noted that council had said the same thing last year and had not followed through.

Audit

Representatives of Mitchell and Titus, the city's new auditors, gave a presentation on their process and results. For the year ending June 30, 2023, they found that the city's financial statements were "fairly presented" with no material weaknesses or instances of noncompliance with accounting standards noted. The full audit report is available on the city's website.

Other Actions

In other actions:

- Council received a petition from the Prince George's Peace & Justice Coalition asking council to sign a cease-fire in Gaza letter that the group said has already been signed by more than 300 legislatures throughout the country.
- Jordan presented a proclamation declaring February Black History Month in Greenbelt to members of the city's Black History and Culture Committee.



Valentine's Day is Coming
Send a love note to your cuties.
Sweetie (\$6 up to 20 words)
SuperSweetie (\$9 21-30 words)
MegaSweetie (\$12 31- 40 words)
\$3 per 10 extra words (or part)
Submit by 6 p.m. Saturday Feb. 10
Appears 7 p.m. Feb 14 (electronically) and Feb 15 in print.
Send/Pay Electronically: Use PayPal
button on www.greenbeltnewsreview.com
In Person/By Mail: Use submission form
in this News Review, in the Co-op Grocery
Store or in the New Deal Café.
Put your name/phone on all items
Need Help?
Email GNRValentines@gmail.com
or call 301-474-4131 Mon/Tues, 2 to 4.
(See love note examples in this issue)

School News

Metal Detectors Address Just One Aspect of School Safety

by Lauren London

Safety in school has been a prominent topic for the past few years. Schools across the country are taking various measures to ensure the safety of their students by installing metal detectors, hiring police officers and using clear backpacks. While these safety measures are essential, it's also important to address the underlying issues contributing to school violence. This includes providing mental health support to students, promoting a culture of respect and kindness and addressing issues of bullying and harassment.

In our school, Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS), we had metal detectors installed before winter break. The detectors were implemented by Prince George's County Public Schools as a security measure to prevent weapons and dangerous items from being brought onto school grounds. The first few days with the security enhancements went well other than a few students being late to their first period. This sounds good on paper, but it can also add to the sense of fear and discomfort among students. On the news, we see how violence in schools is a prominent theme and we can't help but think "What if Roosevelt is next?"

School safety starts with the mental health and well-being of students. School administration needs to educate students on the importance of self-care and stress management techniques, such as exercise, meditation and mindfulness. Encouraging healthy habits and a positive mindset can stop students from resorting to violence. Creating a safe and inclusive school environment is also crucial, especially when a student's life at home cannot be controlled.

School is supposed to be a safe and inclusive place of learning. This means addressing issues of bullying and harassment and promoting a culture of respect and acceptance. When students feel valued and supported, they are less likely to take violent actions. ERHS has clubs like Students Against Destructive Decisions and Bring Change 2 Mind to help combat these issues. Also, if students are having trouble or need mediation they can speak to their grade-level counselor or other counselor (see sites.google.com/pgcps.org/erhsguidance/school-counseling-staff). In conclusion, addressing the underlying issues that contribute to school violence, such as mental health, bullying and harassment, is equally as important as implementing safety measures like metal detectors.

Lauren London is a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. This article first appeared in the Raider Review.

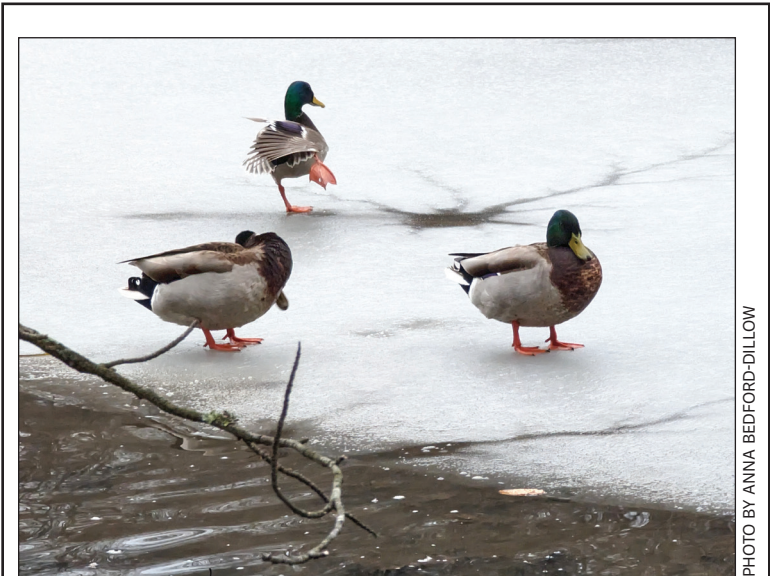


Ms. Jamall demonstrates how to move through the metal detector.

- Photos courtesy Eleanor Roosevelt High School



Students wait in line outside Eleanor Roosevelt High School to go through the new metal detectors.



Ducks on the frozen surface of Greenbelt Lake, January 24

Roosevelt's Got Talent (Show)

by Li'l Dan Celdran

Eleanor Roosevelt High School's French Honor Society presented the school's talent show on Friday, January 26 to an auditorium packed with students, parents, guests and staff. It's been an annual performance since 2013. This year's first round began with 12 acts consisting of singers, a flautist, a pianist, a cello and piano duo, a rapper and a dancer. The audience showed support and encouragement for each act by cheering, clapping, singing along and waving their cellphone flashlights. During intermission, the audience was treated to a performance by the dynamic, high-energy Dem Raider Boyz Step Squad.

The top five performers cho-

sen by three judges performed their second acts which included a contemporary/hip-hop dance, a pianist's homage to his family's birthplace, a jazz interpretation of Nat King Cole's Smile, a performance of Nina Simone's Feeling Good and the band The Roman Empire playing a jazz standard, Misty.

All the talent was impressive. Congrats to the winners, who each received a flower bouquet and a monetary prize. The event was sponsored by French teacher Mme. Cherubin and physics teacher Dr. Laurent Rigal. Well done, everyone.

Li'l Dan Celdran is an Eleanor Roosevelt High School parent.

Greenbelt Community Foundation Announces Fall 2023 Grants

by Kevin W. Parker

The board of the Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) approved four grant applications from the fall 2023 cycle.

The Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS) will receive \$4,775 to support a program to teach and encourage Greenbelt residents to prepare and consume low environmental impact and high health heritage foods.

Helpers to Good will receive \$5,000 to support a Cuisines from Around the World Food Festival and Resource Fair, a family-friendly meet-and-greet event that will strive to make connections between those in need and those who have the ability to be of service.

Higher Achievement will receive \$5,000 to support programs to provide out-of-school time academic enrichment and social-emotional support to Greenbelt Middle School students.

Greenbelt Middle School will receive \$5,000 to support their Positive Behavior Intervention

Support program, which uses posters, incentives and various activities and events to encourage students to be ready to learn, to be respectful to adults and peers, and to always take responsibility for their own actions while exhibiting safe behavior.

GCF seeks to support a thriving, engaged community that is socially responsible, environmentally conscious and supports education, the arts and sciences. GCF does this by helping to fund community projects that build upon the ideals of collaboration, cooperation and engagement through the generous participation of individuals and organizations.

Proposals are reviewed twice yearly, although GCF welcomes grant applications at any time. The next deadline, for the spring 2024 cycle, is April 15. For more information or to make a donation, visit GCF's website at greenbeltfoundation.org.

Kevin W. Parker is chair of the Greenbelt Community Foundation communications committee.



PZZA UNIVERSITY
Culinary Arts Center

COOKING CLASS
Valentine's Day

February 14, 2024 7pm-9pm

Surf & Turf | Roasted Winter Vegetables | Garlic Bread
Twice Baked Potatoes | Chocolate Lava Cake

pizzauniversity.org



Outdoor LOL Childcare Play Area Debated by Council

by Diane Oberg

Greenbelt could have a new childcare facility in the not-too-distant future if the company is able to obtain all necessary approvals. At its January 22 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council considered the Laugh Out Loud (LOL) Childcare Station’s request for a special exception to permit development of an outdoor play area. The special exception will be considered by the county planning board on March 7. Council, on a 5 to 1 vote with Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposed, recommended approval.

The childcare facility would be located off the upper parking deck in the rear of Beltway Plaza. It would be next to but separate from the existing LOL Station’s MEGA Fun Center. State childcare regulations require an outdoor play area with at least 75 square feet per child. The facility plans to accept up to 40 children, with nine infants and the rest up to 5 years old.

The 40-foot by 50-foot play area (2,000 square feet) would be located in the current parking lot directly adjacent to the building. It would have 6-inch-high cement curbs parallel to the building between the parking lot and the play area and will have large plastic barrels filled with water around the perimeter of the play area. A 6-foot-high white vinyl fence with two exits will surround the play area, in addition to the barrels. Chief Managing Member/Owner Regina Bethea



The proposed playground layout

told council that the concrete will be covered with a state-required flooring to ensure that children do not hurt themselves. Part of the lot would be shaded by a vinyl tent secured to the ground and to the building.

Both the Department of Planning and Community Development and the Advisory Planning Board recommend council approval of the Special Exception with conditions including the installation of at least two bike racks under the building awning and that the barrels be filled with water to add mass and installed no more than eight feet apart. The applicant has agreed to these conditions.

No other businesses are currently accessed from the upper parking deck. In addition, according to the application, the facility will be moved in the future as their current location will be partially demolished as part of the Beltway Plaza redevelopment.

They have an agreement with mall ownership to relocate within the new development when necessary.

Comments

Roberts immediately expressed his objections to the plan. He felt that the playground would be too hot and that the water-filled barrels would be insufficient and too far apart to protect against intrusions by vehicles. David Sullivan of Quantum Companies, the owners of Beltway Plaza, noted that the parking area is concrete, which is cooler than asphalt, and will be shaded until noon by the building. Bethea added that state law includes exceptions limiting outdoor activities during hot weather.

Councilmember Silke Pope was also concerned about the barrels, preferring concrete planters. However, she said that the city desperately needs more childcare. Bethea said it was a cost issue. She was willing to look into the suggestion but asked (without receiving an answer) if council would accept the barrels if the state approved them. LOL has been working through the special exceptions process since 2022, she noted.

Resident Bill Orleans objected to the location saying that the pollution from diesel trucks, buses and general traffic makes him question whether an outdoor play space in a parking lot is best for kids.

Resident Leon Schachter asked how the police department could ensure that “some pedophile” cannot come up and snatch a kid. He said that when he had asked the police this question the response was, essentially, a nonresponse. Sullivan said that security has improved dramatically over the past year under its new director of security, a former District of Columbia police officer. The play area will be fenced in and the center has its own secure entrance. He also noted that there is camera coverage of the parking area.

Work on Parkway Bridges, Interchanges Begins Soon

The National Park Service will be conducting bridge preservation activities along the Baltimore-Washington Parkway starting February 12 through late summer, beginning with work on the Powder Mill Road and Beaverdam Road bridges. There will be intermittent single-lane closures during non-peak hours. The work will be completed on a rolling basis and work dates are not yet set.

Other nearby Maryland routes that will be worked on include (not necessarily in order of work): Route 198 interchange, Patuxent River bridge, Route 197 interchange, Route 193 bridge, Good Luck Road bridge, Route 202 bridge, Route 201 bridge and Route 201 ramp to Anacostia Freeway.

Greenbelt and Prince George’s Federal Credit Unions Merge

On December 31, 2023, Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union (PGFCU) completed its merger with Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, forging a partnership aimed at creating a more robust financial institution. The merger signifies a strategic move to enhance the financial services offered to the community and strengthen the credit unions’ position in the region.

The newly merged entity will continue to operate independently

and under separate names until further notice, with an expected integration date later in 2024. PGFCU and Greenbelt Federal Credit Union will be combining their memberships, bringing together a total of 20,000 members and \$289 million in assets with four physical branch locations and a virtual branch. This merger leverages the strengths and expertise of both institutions to deliver a higher level of service and support to their members and the community.

Kids Discovery Center At Patuxent Refuge

The Discovery Center at the Patuxent Research Refuge offers learning activities and crafts for children ages 3 to 10 with an adult, Tuesday through Saturday. Sessions start at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon, lasting 35 minutes.

The theme for February is Moths and the theme for March is Birds in Spring. Registration is strongly recommended. Call 301-497-5760. Visit fws.gov/refuge/patuxent-research/patuxent-visitor-center for more information.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

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See page 7 to get yours!

Greenbelt Artist Featured At Hollingsworth Gallery

Greenbelt artist and Maryland native Amanda Spaid is the featured artist for February at the Hollingsworth Gallery in the National Wildlife Visitor Center on the Patuxent Research Refuge. Spaid attended the School of Art and Design at Montgomery College and from there completed her art degree at Columbus College of Art and Design in Ohio. She works with many different media but her favorite is working with dry media on wood panels that she collects and cuts herself. She also enjoys working digitally. Spaid likes working in this medium because digital painting offers greater freedom, flexibility and precision when designing images. Her recent works include using multimedia with acrylic and gouache (an opaque, quick-drying watercolor).

Spaid’s first child inspired her re-engagement with nature and sparked an interest in flora and fauna. Now, with her work, Spaid hopes to inspire people to slow down and better appreciate the “natural world.” Her website features portraits of a variety of animals but her primary focus is birds. She writes that, “Artists and engineers have been fascinated by birds for centuries.”

Her work has been exhibited at the Greenbelt Arts Center, Watkins Nature Center, Brookside Gardens, Wheaton Regional Park and Hollingsworth.

The visitor center, accessed from Powder Mill Road south of Md. 197, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

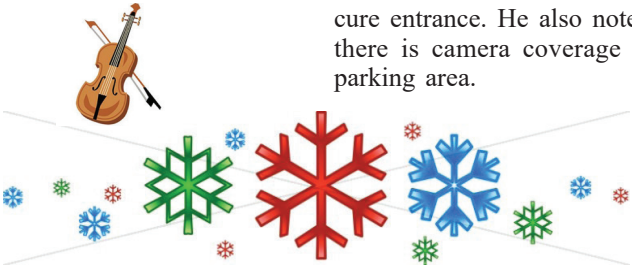
Donate Sneakers For People in Need

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. This sneaker recycling program helps to keep sneakers out of landfills, where they have harmful effects on the environment.

A donation box is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time.

Community Orchestra Welcomes Musicians

Greenbelt Community Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings and welcomes new members, especially string players. For more information, visit GreenbeltOrchestra.org.



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TENANTS continued from page 1

preserve its value and observing local and state laws.

He said foreclosure is necessary for Freddie Mac to take possession of the property, remove the owner’s property rights and sell the property.

He said the owner could appeal receivership, which he believes would not succeed, given the evidence in the filing of the owner’s pattern of neglect. The evidence includes the city’s documentation of repeated code violations since July 2023. He said the owner has already lost other properties, including Texas and New Jersey apartment buildings now in receivership. Tenants continue to live in those buildings.

City requests to the Prince George’s County State’s Attorney to pursue receivership produced no results. Freddie Mac’s request for foreclosure and receivership is powerful because, as the lender, they have legal status that the city, county and state do not. It also protects the city from bearing the legal costs of pursuing receivership.

City Support Continues

City costs include the work of Planning and Community Development inspectors and staff, Salmerón and the city solicitor. Their efforts include conducting inspections, writing violations, trying to contact the owner, pursuing the code violations as municipal infractions in Maryland District Court and engaging tenants, county and state officials and Freddie Mac. Those efforts produced the evidence used in Freddie Mac’s filings, and those efforts continue. In January a District Court judge heard, and doubled fines for, the first infractions the city submitted to the court in 2023, with more infractions scheduled for a February 14 trial. Salmerón said since December the city has issued \$34,000 in new fines, adding evidence against the owner. He also said city staff recently identified the contractor who last inspected the uncertified elevator, confirmed they have a valid contract with the owner and are working with them to inspect the elevator and make it safely available to residents.

Maintenance and Bills

With building maintenance unavailable, several tenants said they are considering hiring contractors for repairs at their expense, though concerned about liability for the Charlestowne North property. One example was a leaking garbage disposal preventing the tenant from using their kitchen sink. Discussion suggested ensuring the contractor is licensed, bonded and insured, and saving receipts.

Tenants continue to receive bills for rent and utilities. Discussion clarified they are not liable to the current owner for rent since September 1, 2023, when the city did not renew the owner’s rental license due to code violations, nor will their credit be affected by withholding rent from an unlicensed landlord. Tenants are also not liable for bills for utilities that are included in their leases.

Some tenants asked about a previous discussion of how to deposit rent in a rent escrow account with the District Court, and asked if they must establish court rent escrow accounts. Fellow tenants said it is not required since tenants are not obligated to



Charlestowne North apartments beside the south entrance to Buddy Attick Park on Wednesday, February 7

pay rent to unlicensed landlords. One tenant suggested that those who do wish to set aside rent, do so with their own bank instead of the court. They reasoned that this demonstrates good faith and retains the funds in tenant hands vs. not knowing how much of a court rent escrow account would be returned to the tenant.

File Complaints

Despite the lender’s foreclosure and receivership requests, it is still recommended that tenants file consumer complaints with the Maryland Attorney General. Doing so establishes tenant claims against the owner, enables the Attorney General to investigate the complaint and hold the owner accountable and further builds evidence against the owner. Examples of valid complaints include bills for rent since September 1, bills for utilities included in leases, damage to possessions from water leaks or mold and paying for repairs the owner did not handle. Jordan emphasized to tenants that only they can submit these complaints because their leases give them legal standing that no one else has.

Tenants Wanda Darden and Hannah Gould are supporting

fellow tenants in preparing complaints. Darden said tenants may either join a group complaint by providing their name, apartment number and phone number, or may submit an individual complaint (online or paper) to the Attorney General. Complaints require information including identifying the owner and describing the complaint and desired resolution. Tenants may contact Darden at dardenfinancial@yahoo.com to join the group complaint, or obtain owner and other information for an individual complaint. Darden said over 70 tenants have joined the group complaint as of February 3.

Best for Residents

Darden said, “Receivership is exciting to me. What we don’t want is for [the current owner] to condemn the building before [a new owner] takes over. That’s why this is crucial, and very important, because now they can’t put us on the street.” Resident Tim Perry agreed. “Receivership is probably the best thing that can happen to us.” The meeting ended with a round of applause from tenants for the city’s commitment to them.

GHI Bike Committee Meets



On a recent evening, members of the GHI Bicycle Committee had an informal get-together at the New Deal Café. Pictured, from left, are Jackson Tan (secretary), Peter Teuben, Lisa Milani and Diana McFadden (vice chair). Members: Bruce Mangum (staff liaison), Ed James (board liaison) and John Campanile were not in attendance.

Novel Endings Open for Business

Novel Endings is the used book room within the Greenbelt Library. Sales of books and other media from this room support special programming and the Library.

Maintained by volunteers for the Friends of Greenbelt Library, Novel Endings receives donations of book discards from the library as well as donations from the community by special arrangements. To donate books, email friendsofgreenbeltlibrary@gmail.com. Cash and check donations are also accepted in the blue box next to the Library’s front desk.

Come see what Novel Endings has to offer and support the Greenbelt Library at the same time.

Spring & Summer Camp Guide Is Live Online

The Recreation Department has posted its spring and summer camp guide, listing the recreation options available this year. Registration is now open for all. To view the guide or for more information, visit greenbeltmd.gov/camps.

Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club invites all to join them online every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The club provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving their public speaking and leadership skills. Learn more at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.





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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred January 29 - February 4, 2024. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Greenbelt Police Department reported three deaths; three domestics; four mental health diversions, one involving suicide; one sexual assault; one juvenile missing person who returned safely; and one disorderly call between a juvenile and her parents.

Robbery

On January 30 at 12:24 p.m. near 6140 Springhill Terrace, a man out walking was approached by two men who demanded his property. One was armed with a knife and brass knuckles. The suspects fled, and the man was not injured.

Assault

On January 29 at 2:01 p.m. near Kenilworth Avenue and Old Calvert Road, two vehicles collided. The two drivers argued, and the male driver assaulted the female driver. They were still arguing when the police arrived. The man was hostile and aggressive and was taken into custody for the assault.

On February 3 at 2:15 p.m. near 7801 Mandan Road, a Lyft driver had a disagreement with a customer who punched him in the face and fled.

Armed Person

On January 31 at 12:42 p.m. near 7826 Hanover Parkway, juveniles in a hallway threatened a person. When officers responded, the subjects fled; one was caught and arrested.

BB guns

On January 29 near 99 Centerway, a citizen turned in BB guns that her son purchased from another juvenile. On January 30 near 6300 Golden Triangle Drive, an employee found a BB gun in a room while cleaning, and police placed it into property.

DUI Arrest

On February 3 at 1:23 a.m. near Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road, after a single-vehicle accident, the driver was arrested for DUI and transported

to the station.

On February 4 at 4:06 a.m. near Kenilworth Avenue and the Beltway interchange, a driver stopped at a green light was found unresponsive behind the wheel; the driver admitted to consuming alcohol and was arrested for DUI.

Fraud

On February 1 at 4:07 p.m. near 7565 Greenbelt Road, a woman came to a bank to cash a fraudulent check; she had earlier cashed a fraudulent check at a different branch. Officers arrested her after a short struggle.

On February 1 at 7:30 p.m. near 9200 Edmonston Road, someone used a man's information to make a Facebook account for illicit and explicit activities.

Trespassing

On January 29 near 9200 Springhill Lane, a man squatting in a vacant unit was arrested.

On February 3 near 2 Westway, a man saw someone inside his late mother's residence. The occupant told officers he was there to become a "squatter" and presented officers with documents about squatter's rights in Maryland. He was taken into custody.

On February 1 near 9116 Edmonston Court, a girl reported missing was found in a vacant apartment with two other juveniles, who were all arrested for trespassing and released to their parents.

Theft

On January 29 near 6100 Breezewood Court, a package was taken from a residence. On January 31 at 3:50 p.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane, someone snatched off a man's ski mask and fled.

Commercial Theft

On January 29 near 7400 Greenbelt Road, a man stole a car battery; and near 7435 Greenbelt Road, a man purchased items using counterfeit currency, which police placed into evidence. On January 30 near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man was arrested for stealing items in a bookbag; near 7583 Greenbelt Road, a woman walked out without paying for her items; she was stopped in the parking lot by an officer and banned from the property; and near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a man stole multiple grocery items and fled in a yellow Hyundai. On January 31 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man filled trash bags with merchandise before fleeing just prior to police arrival. On February 1 near 6100 Greenbelt Road, the loss prevention team reported information regarding a theft scheme at their store. On February 2 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, someone stole a bracelet from a jeweler; and near 7583 Greenbelt Road, two suspects stole merchandise and fled in an unknown vehicle.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Four vehicles were stolen this week: near 6001 Springhill Drive, a 2015 Chevrolet Equinox (Md. 4EF1376); near 2 Southway, a 2017 Toyota Rav4 (Md. 2ED6272); near 7300 Hanover Drive, a black 2017 Hyundai Elantra (Md. 1FL8075); and near 5352 N Center Drive, a Hyundai Santa Fe (Md. 7FB7090).

Stolen Vehicles Recovered

Four stolen vehicles were recovered this week: one near 5717 Greenbelt Metro Drive; one from D.C. found running near 7400 Greenway Center Drive; and one stolen from Hyattsville near 213 Lakeside Drive. Near 9200 Springhill Lane, a stolen 2016 Hyundai Sonata was involved in an accident, and the driver fled on foot.

Attempted Theft of Vehicle

Four vehicles (two Kias and two Hyundais) had windows broken and ignition damage: on January 29, a 2007 Sportage near 6100 Breezewood Court and an Elantra near 7500 Greenway Center Drive; and on February 1, a 2016 Elantra near 9007 Breezewood Terrace and a Kia Rio near 6000 Springhill Drive.

Theft from Auto

Wheels were stolen February 1 near 7603 Mandan Road from a 2021 Toyota Corolla, and February 4 near 6150 Springhill Terrace from a 2006 Silver Ford F-150, along with the catalytic converter.

On February 1 near 6198 Greenbelt Road, a man and his son went to the mall and on their return found things missing from their vehicle. On February 3 near 7800 Walker Drive, a 2019 Honda Accord had a broken window and stolen wheel lock and registration card. On February 4 near Morrison Drive and Ora Glen Drive, a ballistic work vest was missing from an unlocked vehicle. On February 4 near 5801 Cherrywood Terrace, tags were stolen (Md. 2FA7569).

Windows were broken on a Sonata on January 30 near 6100 Breezewood Court, and on a Corvette on February 4 near 7716 Hanover Parkway.



Travels with News Review



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID AYLWARD

David Aylward sends greetings and this report from Switzerland: "My wife, Teresa Petrovic, and I were lucky to visit the Matterhorn late last year, and see it on a clear day. Of course we were carrying the latest edition of your fine publication."



PHOTO BY JUDITH DAVIS

J Davis visited Pearl Harbor during her trip to Hawaii. She dropped lei flowers over the USS Arizona in memory of Gerald Fintak, her father; Ed Fintak, her uncle; and Harry Williamson, her partner Neil's father - all World War II veterans.

Survey Wants to Help Us Get Where We're Going

The Neighborhood Design Center is preparing a Strategic Wayfinding Plan for the City of Greenbelt and needs your input. They ask members of the community to respond to their surveys by Monday, February 19 to identify gaps or needs. Links to the survey and the interactive map are available in the News section of the city website (greenbeltmd.gov).

The wayfinding plan is funded by the Prince George's County Planning Department's Planning Assistance to Municipalities and Communities Program. The survey is brief. It seeks to identify wayfinding signage gaps or needs in the City of Greenbelt on an interactive map.

Wayfinding can encompass various elements, including signage, maps, landmarks and other cues that help individuals understand their location, the direction they need to go and how to reach their intended destination. The Greenbelt Strategic Wayfinding Plan will facilitate pedestrian, automobile, bicycle or transit travel to key sites by providing clear directions along safe and convenient routes.



PRELIMINARY AGENDA Meetings of the GHI and GDC Boards of Directors on February 15, 2024

GHI Closed Meeting – starts at 7:00 p.m. - closed to members and visitors

- a) Approval of Minutes of the Closed Meeting held on December 7, 2023
- b) Proposals for Pipe Replacement Project

GDC Closed Meeting – starts after the GHI Closed Meeting ends - closed to members and visitors

- a) Approval of Minutes of the Closed Meeting held on September 7, 2023
- b) GDC Roof Replacement Contingency Increase Request

GHI Open Meeting – starts at 7:45 p.m. - open to members and visitors

- a) Statement of Closed Meetings held on February 1, 2024
- b) Approval of Addendum for Trust Ownership and Trustee's Affidavit for a GHI Unit
- c) Approval of Minutes of the Open Meeting held on December 7, 2023
- d) Procedure for GHI Stance on State Legislation - Discussion
- e) Companion Animal Committee Report
- f) 2023 Management Report
- g) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on March 7, 2024

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZUlfumqrD0uHtYmiqajPvD83QyzDVzOIInR>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Obituaries continued

In Memoriam

Remembering Lee Shields

by Sandra A. Lange



Bonnie and Lee Shields

Greenbelt pioneer Lee Barron Shields, 86, died peacefully on December 2, 2023, at his Greenbelt home. Lee was 3 months old when his family moved to the 43 Court of Ridge Road in the newly constructed town of Greenbelt in November 1937. He was the son of Greenbelt pioneers William and Winona Shields. When the federal government sold Greenbelt in 1952, the family moved to Berwyn Heights.

Lee met his future bride, Bonnie Lou McCaw, when both were lifeguards at local swimming pools. Lee and Bonnie made their home on Plateau Place where they resided for all 65 years of their married life. It is where they raised their children and participated in a host of Greenbelt activities.

Lee loved his volunteer role as a docent for the Greenbelt Museum. For 36 years he and Bonnie enjoyed passing on Greenbelt's history to Museum visitors. Lee would often relate personal stories of growing up in early Greenbelt. One of his favorites was recalling the time he worked as a wagon jockey at the grocery store, then called Greenbelt Consumer Services. For a fee, he and other young boys would line up with their wagons outside the store and trudge uphill to deliver groceries to a customer's house. He also worked at the bowling alley (now the Greenbelt Arts Center), delivered newspapers and sold flower seeds.

In addition to being a docent, Lee was on the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) Board of Directors and served as president of the FOGM board in its formative years before there was a full-time curator. Lee walked in many Labor Day Parades for the Museum. He always donned the hat his father wore as a postal carrier in early Greenbelt. "Looking through all

of these photos (of Lee)," stated Museum Director Megan Searing Young, "I'm reminded of Lee's humor, his dependability and his commitment to the Museum. He also was always so generous in sharing stories, photos and other ephemera from his family."

Lee was famous for his humor. He was a master wordsmith, and enjoyed entertaining people with his wit and puns. During the city's 75th Anniversary, Lee presented a program on early Greenbelt transportation. He held up a large poster with photographs of various vehicles, calling it his PowerPoint presentation.

Lee attended all of the Greenbelt schools: North End (now Greenbelt Elementary), Center (now the Community Center), Greenbelt Junior High and Greenbelt High School (now Dora Kennedy French Immersion). He graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in journalism. He spent three decades as an information officer with the USDA's Soil Conservation Service, where he earned its Meritorious Service Award. In later years, he worked for the Good Earth Council and Verizon.

Lee was active in the St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. At various times over the years, he served on the church council, was a deacon and, on occasion, gave sermons. His memorial service was held at the church on January 18.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Bonnie; his three children, Kevin (Martha), Jonathan (Tina) and Leerin; three siblings, Stape (Dorine), Faith Rodell and Penny Rothrock (William "Bill"); seven grandchildren and many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Donations in his name may be made to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, 5820 Riverdale Road, Riverdale, MD 20737.

Letters continued from page 2

and thrive is not the same as storing some barely used boxes and furniture in someone's garage across town.

We find ourselves in a poorly thought-out present. We've inherited a set of situations built on inequity and unequal distribution of resources, precisely from a lack of wholistic thinking. That's one reason it's so difficult to imagine a whole Greenbelt. We have felt chopped up by the ways our city has grown. I don't think the answer lies in chopping us up more. The answer lies in stabilizing and moving with strength to and from the center.

Let's continue to come together and hold our priorities of connection and service to the residents central to our planning. We don't need multiple poorly-resourced cities. We need better transportation and communication, and we need a true sense of belonging. I believe siting a new municipal building in the Roosevelt Center offers our city a grounding – a centering – from which a strength of purpose and an ability to reach all of our residents can be supported.

Susan Taylor

Preserve Greenbelt's Historic High School

"As soon as those students are out of that building, we're probably going to demolish that building."

This rather chilling remark, made by PGCPs Director of Capital Programs Shawn Matlock to the Greenbelt City Council, laid bare the county's plan for the historic 1938 Greenbelt High School: tear it down. This decision, apparently made without public input or comment, has caught the entire Greenbelt community by surprise and shows a blatant disregard to historic preservation of a significant community building. Sadly, we've been here before. The PGCPs acquired Greenbelt's three historic school buildings – Center Elementary School, High School and North End Elementary School – from the federal government in 1948 prior to the sale of the town in 1953. Since then, the school board's treatment of these buildings has not been stellar.

The North End Elementary – designed by architect Victorine Du Pont Homsey and built in 1944 by the federal government for residents of the defense homes in Greenbelt's North End – was closed in 1981, transferred to the county as "surplus property" and mothballed, left to sit and decay for over 10 years.

Center Elementary was threat-

ened with demolition in 1987 so that the PGCPs could build a large new elementary school on the site. News of its possible destruction created a local, national and international outcry and spurred a massive preservation effort. Instead, the county school board acquired the old North End Elementary, still empty and unused, and demolished it in April 1992 to make way for a larger elementary school. The destruction of the North End School saved the Center School, and the city restored the building for use as a community center.

Greenbelt High School, which had served for many years as the middle school, was put on the chopping block by PGCPs in 2015 after a new middle school was built. The historic building was saved when it became the home of the Dora Kennedy French Immersion School. The recent comments by school board officials suggest that the historic high school is once again targeted for demolition after the Dora Kennedy school is relocated. It will be demolished and the Dora Kennedy students moved to another location.

The high school building is a significant contributing resource to Greenbelt's National Historic Landmark status. It still has plenty of life left and could be reimaged and rehabilitated for another use (perhaps as a community center for Greenbelt West). Let's decide now that this building is worth saving. Let the school board know that they cannot tear down any more of our history.

Stephen Oetken

New Year's at the Beijing

This Saturday [February 10] is the Lunar New Year, Year of the Dragon! We as a community should be supporting our local businesses, all of them, or they will go away. As we hear of economic difficulties at the New Deal Café, so too at the Beijing. So join us in supporting our little local Beijing in person, pick up or delivery on the New Year. I'll be in front of the fishtank counting fishes awaiting my flaming volcano and spicy Singapore noodles.

Peter May



What the rain brought - the Lake creek flows at the east entrance bridge after the heavy rain in early January.



GREENBELT NURSERY SCHOOL

Open House Sat., Feb. 24, 10 am.—1 pm.

REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2024

Classes for children 2, 3, & 4

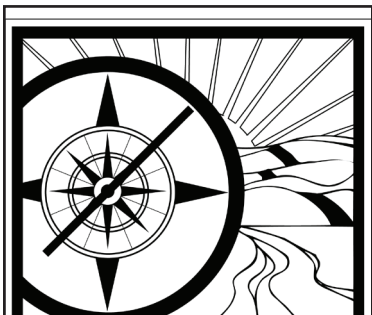
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Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.





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ROBOTICS continued from page 1

bringing together the winning teams of all the Maryland qualifying events, which will take place at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County on Saturday, February 24.

FLL’s stated aims are to introduce science, technology, engineering and math to children through hands-on learning in a guided, global robotics program. FLL’s three divisions encourage youth to experiment and grow their critical thinking, coding and design skills.

In this year’s competition, themed Masterpiece, participants were tasked with communicating about art in innovative ways. The innovation project of the Greenbelt Bots, Math In Visual Art, won overall first place. In the interview with the judges, team members articulated ideas to help educators teach math in innovative ways. The team’s hands-on presentation demonstrated to the judges that math and art, taught together, will be fun for students.

The team’s co-mentors are Korak Saha, a research scientist at the University of Maryland, and Praveen Noojipady, a senior scientist at NASA Goddard.

“We are hoping that our local team’s achievement can be publicized to encourage more kids from Greenbelt to join the program,” said Noojipady. “Also, we are in dire need of a community space for our local team to



The Greenbelt Bots show off their science innovation award. From left: Mary Winternitz, Soham Chaudhuri, Spandana Noojipady and Tanvi Saha

practice and we need community support.”

In last year’s FLL competition, at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Laurel, the team’s innovation challenge was how to reduce the carbon footprint of hydroelectric power generation. Logistical surprises challenged the team, being first-time competitors and the youngest team

of the field. Nonetheless, they finished in the top 15 for the day and, in FLL’s Core Values, they took second place. (See story in the February 9, 2023, issue of the News Review.)

For more information on the State Championship, visit marylandfll.org/event/state-championship.

BUDDY ATTICK continued from page 1

as a small picnic shelter with plantings surrounding the area. The plan also suggests removing dead trees in the wet areas. Further study is needed to understand why the wet areas are not draining properly; however, these places could be a focus for wetland plantings and restoration.

Peninsula Area

This section forms an important junction where the path out to the peninsula meets with the path going around the lake. The proposed plan would better connect the area overlooking the pond with the point of the peninsula. In the area adjacent to the pond a small seating area would be built as well as an overlook deck. Along the peninsula the proposed plan calls for making three different seating areas to create more of a destination feeling.

The current proposal also calls for improvements to the path along the south side of the lake to reduce erosion and allow for better drainage. In addition, it suggests creating more waterfront rock seating where walkers could sit and view the lake as well as plantings to enhance the shoreline vegetation.

Council and Public Reaction

One of the main points of discussion regarded the gravel path around the lake, its lack of accessibility and how it is a maintenance issue due to erosion. The proposed plan describes three alternatives to gravel: asphalt, porous asphalt and stone dust. Any of these surface materials would increase accessibility, reduce erosion and likely lower costs of maintaining the path. Councilmember Rodney Roberts was not in favor of paving the path and feels that the path is too wide. Councilmembers Kristen Weaver and Silke Pope preferred a surface material other than asphalt

that would allow for a natural feel. Mayor Emmett Jordan suggested that the choice of surface material could vary along sections of the path.

Councilmember Jenni Pompei asked if new plants would be native and if any live trees would be cut down. The Master Plan does not address specific plant species but does recommend that they be native. The plan does not call for trees to be removed unless they are dead, dying or pose a hazard.

Concerns about public safety were addressed stating that any plantings and vegetation will not obscure the openness of paths. Pope asked about low-level lighting to assist walkers during the fall and winter. However, other attendees were not in favor of lights. In terms of the shelter in the South Cove, some were worried that it would be a focal point at night and become a nuisance.

Next Steps

The next step in the process will be to draft a Master Plan then circulate it for comment by council, the Park and Recreation

Advisory Board and others before writing the final Master Plan. It is expected that the final plan will be done in March. Details regarding the development of the Buddy Attick Master Plan can be found at greenbeltnmd.gov/community/buddy-attick-park-master-plan.

♥♥♥♥♥

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31 words = MegaSweetie \$12

See page 7 to get yours!

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BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

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DUMPING continued from page 1

time, just council direction.

Northway Yard Waste and Mulch Pile

This site was intended for city use and use by registered residents who obtain approval to deposit yard debris on the mulch pile. Carpenter-Driscoll said that illegal dumping by contractors is a major factor in the problems at this site. They dump construction debris and concrete/asphalt waste. Most of the dumping occurs overnight and on weekends, he said.

Carpenter-Driscoll outlined three options for this site: 1) Eliminate the dumpsite and have city staff transfer its waste to the Prince George’s County Organics Composting Facility. This would increase staff costs. 2) Install a gate and restrict access to city staff and permit holders. 3) Continue with the current setup and budget for the extra costs.

For option two, staff proposes that the gate be placed close to Northway’s intersection with Ridge Road. The gate would be open during normal business hours and closed overnight and weekends.

Several councilmembers expressed objections to the proposed gate location. They described the area as a city park including ballfields and the City Observatory. Plus, the area is used by other residents for impromptu or unscheduled activities, such as walking.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts strongly supported the first option stating that both the millings pile and the mulch pile are contaminating streams in the area. Mayor Emmett Jordan said the gate should be located much further in on Northway so as not to restrict so many resident activities. Carpenter-Driscoll countered that staff was concerned that with a gate that far back on the property, contractors would simply dump their waste in front of the gate.

Greenbelt East Residential Recycling Center

This site is located off Hanover Parkway across from the dog park. The illegal dumping in this area is more residential

than at the Northway site, with a lot of furniture and heavy bulk materials. While the city installed trash containers for non-recyclables, the site continues to see trash deposited into the recycling containers.

The options identified by staff were to eliminate the site or install perimeter fencing and enforce hours of operation.

Buddy Attick Recycling Center

Located outside the Public Works yard adjacent to Buddy Attick Park, this site collects the broadest range of materials including used oil, bulk recycling, food scraps, oyster shells, textiles and regular trash. Except for the used oil collection, staff identified just one option, fencing off the area to restrict use during non-business hours.

Staff also proposed that collection of used motor oil be moved inside the existing public works compound next to the salt bays. Residents could register to gain access to the site during off hours and any resident could deposit oil during Public Works normal business hours when the gate is open. This was the one proposal to which council gave staff direction, indicating support for creating a new used oil collection center inside the yard.

Enforcement

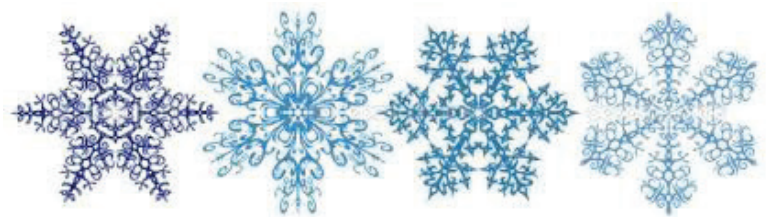
Terri Hruby, director of Planning and Community Development, was asked how illegal dumping incidents caught on camera would be handled. She said that Public Works would provide vehicle information to Code Enforcement staff, who would work with police to identify the vehicle owner and issue a citation.

The remaining proposals were deferred until they could be discussed further in a worksession.



The used oil recycling section at the Recycling Center is almost overflowing.

- Photos courtesy Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll



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MLK Day of Service

From left, Councilmembers Kristen Weaver, Silke Pope, Jenni Pompei and Danielle McKinney join Greenbelt Public Works on Saturday, February 3, for a day of service around Buddy Attick Park. The event was rescheduled from Martin Luther King Day due to snow.

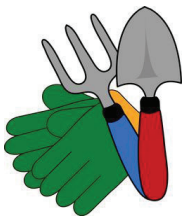


PHOTO BY KEVIN CARPENTER-DRISCOLL



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

From left, Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, Councilmember Kristen Weaver and Councilmember Danielle McKinney prune and protect trees around the Lake.

Art Workshop



PHOTO BY BECKY SQUIRE

Participants pose with their creations from the mosaic stepping stone workshop sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation. Behind them is instructor Shahin Talishkhan.



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See page 7 to get yours!



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